

Project AEPOLE

(Consolidated into Project AEFREEMAN)

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2D
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

AEPOLE

S E C R E T

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PROJECT ACTION SHEET

DATE 24 November 1958

COUNTRY: LITHUANIA

BUDGET: ☐ ☐

New Project / Renewal for FY 59 / Amendment # / Termination

1. Project (Cryptonym): AEPOLE
2. Precise of operation, mechanism, target:

A psychological warfare type operation. AEPOLE sponsors a radio program through the facilities of Radio Nacional in Madrid and Radio Rome. Mailing operations based in West Germany, and legal traveler contact operations utilizing Lithuanian emigres and emigre groups aimed at the people of Lithuania SSR.

3. This project refers to priority A, objective 2, tasks b/d of the applicable RMD which requires (quote pertinent passage):

Facilitate evolutionary changes within the USSR by exploiting the major changes occurring in the Soviet hierarchy--To this end increase popular demands for greater freedom, aggravate frictions between Soviet and Satellite parties and governments, and induce popular doubts as to the validity of communism

Disseminate facts and propaganda themes to the Soviet people inside the USSR through effective covert media, including radio; utilize selected emigre organizations for propaganda and political action.

4. If the priority noted in reply to #3 above is not "A", are the other, higher priority objectives adequately taken care of--or impossible to achieve at present--so that this project aimed at a lower priority target is sufficiently justified?

N. A.

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5. Does the project cover the entire task described in question 3 above? If not, which part of the task is actually covered by the project? (Are, in your opinion, more important parts of the task left uncovered? If so, why?).

AEPOLE covers the task as it relates to one Baltic country (Lithuania).

6. Are there other projects, beside this, which cover the same task or reach essentially the same target? If so, list them and state whether this means unnecessary duplication or justifiable division of work and/or a desirable supplementary effort? (If you consider this to be duplication, explain which project should be eliminated or re-directed or whether two or more projects should be merged, or any other applicable remedial action).

There is no duplication of effort.

7. Progress and development of the project during the last 12 months (include major changes in operating conditions or policies):

The mailing facility in West Germany has increased its capacity to direct mail to approximately 6,000 addresses inside Lithuania from different parts of Europe. Certain improvements to the radio program was accomplished.

S E C R E T

8. Additional Comments:

The activities of AEPOLE were hampered by disunity within the Lithuanian emigration organization (VLIK), but this problem has now been satisfactorily resolved. SR Division is now working on improving the quality of the radio programs and also attempting to obtain a truer evaluation of the effectiveness of the radio program. The potential of this activity is greater than we have utilized and should be developed qualitatively. This is the only radio program into Lithuania. AEPOLE should in no way be considered expendable but should receive concentrated attention both from headquarters and the field.

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S:

A. This project action should be-approved / disapproved / approved under the following conditions (with the following modifications):

B. Additional action suggested (e.g., advice for the operating division, request for additional information and/or redocumentation, special staff support, future reassessment, or the like):

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PP/PRD/RB Area Officer (Name
typed and signed)